

Message Text

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TAGS: OXEC (SAMOUNTRY, THIEP; KHENPHIMSOURIVONG,
PHOU; VORCHAK, PHAYSAIN)

SUBJ: FOREIGN STUDENT PROGRAM FOR LAOS; USG SUPPORTED
LAO STUDENTS CURRENTLY IN U.S.

1. THREE LAO, NAMED IN TAGS LINE WHO HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY
THE DEPT. FOR THE FOREIGN STUDENT PROGRAM HAVE YET TO
DEPART. ALL THREE HAVE PASSED THEIR REQUIRED TESTS AND
ARE NOW ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN LAO DOCUMENTATION NECESSARY
TO LEAVE COUNTRY.

2. EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICER BELIEVES THERE IS NOW A QUESTION
WHETHER EXCHANGE-VISITOR VISAS SHOULD BE ISSUED, SINCE
THESE STUDENTS ARE NOT LIKELY TO RETURN TO LAOS.
(FAILURE TO ISSUE THEM VISAS IS TANTAMOUNT TO
DENYING THEM THE SCHOLARSHIPS.) ON THE OTHER HAND,
THESE STUDENTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN NOTIFIED THAT
THEY ARE THE RECIPIENTS OF USG SCHOLARSHIPS AND
IN FACT FOUR YEARS FROM NOW, WHEN THEY WOULD BE DUE TO
RETURN, THE POLITICAL SITUATIONS MIGHT BE MORE
FAVORABLE FOR THOSE TRAINED IN THE U.S.

3. WE WOULD LIKE ASAP THE DEPT'S ADVICE ON THE PROPRIETY
ISSUING "J" VISAS TO THESE STUDENTS.

4. AMONG THE LAO STUDENTS CURRENTLY STUDYING IN THE
U.S. UNDER THE FOREIGN STUDENTS PROGRAM THERE ARE
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SOME WHO ARE ALMOST CERTAIN NOT TO RETURN TO LAOS.
FOR EXAMPLE, KRISNA ABHAY IS THE SON OF OUSTED MIN.

OF HEALTH KHAMPHAI ABHAY WHO IS NOW PROBABLY IN FRANCE.
HERE A QUESTION ARISES WHETHER SUCH STUDENTS
SHOULD CONTINUE TO RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT.
CHAPMAN

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